

PUBLIC RECEPTION FOR OUR TEACHERS AT THE AUDITORIUM

BOARD OF EDUCATION EXTENDS PUBLIC INVITATION TO EVENT OF GENERAL INTEREST.

The board of education members are going to hold a public reception for the teachers of the local schools at the city hall auditorium, Friday evening, September 13, between the hours of 8 and 10 o'clock, at which time an invitation is hereby extended to the public of this city to be present and meet and greet the people who have the education of the school children and students of this city in charge. Heretofore, the receptions, when held have as a rule been held by some particular church and has wrong impression got spread around that the reception was for the members of the church in which the affair was being held, only. That has never been the case, however and this year the reception will be held in the city hall and is to be for everyone.

The teachers of the city schools have a great duty to perform in the educating and instructing of the coming men and women of the nation, but the parents of these children have also an important duty to perform in this matter, that of keeping track of the progress which their children are making in their studies. At times it is the fault of a teacher when poor progress is made by a scholar, while more often it is the fault of the scholar, but be that as it may, the meeting occasionally of the parent and the teacher is a good thing and parents, you owe it to your children to turn out to the Friday night meeting and get acquainted with the people who have the welfare of your children in hand. Know them, so that when you meet them on the street, you will be able to speak to them and ask them such questions as might be proper and your duty to know, regarding the conduct, progress, etc., of your children at school.

The reception will be at from 8 to 10 o'clock in the auditorium of the city hall and everyone is invited. A splendid musical program has been prepared for the occasion and light refreshments will be served.

"AN HEIRESS FOR A DAY"

A. W. C. T. U. BENEFIT

Synopsis for "Heiress for a Day." Helen Thurston, manufacturer in the fashionable Ritz Hotel, longs for social position so that she may win the love of wealthy Jack Standing. A sudden inheritance plunges her into social life. She endeavors to overawe society with her extravagance. The impression which she tries to make on Standing fails. Then she learns that she is heir to but \$1,000. The fortune goes to her cousin Spindrift, under certain conditions. She decides to use her \$1,000 for one day. Standing fails to respond to her wiles and creditors suddenly clamor for the thousands due them. At a magnificent ball a detective swoops down on her and society turns away from her. But Standing comes to her rescue. The conditions of the will are violated by Spindrift and Helen wins Standing and the fortune.

At the Empire theater Wednesday evening, Sept. 18. Music, readings and tableaux furnished by the Union. The unions of the state are planning to buy a \$20,000 Liberty bond and the local A. W. C. T. U. are having this benefit to raise money for this fund.

Admission: Adults, 15 cents and 2 cents war tax; children, 10 cents and 1 cent war tax.

Lavery Family Reunion.

The descendants of Eli and Lucinda Lavery, pioneer residents of Orleans, met at the city park on Labor day for the first time in several years and had a good time. Dinner was served to about 40 relatives.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lavery, Mr. and Mrs. Niel Lavery, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Lavery and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Lavery and family, and Leon Lavery of Sidney, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Lavery of Detroit; Mrs. Jerome Lavery and Mrs. Guy Glazier of Orleans and Mrs. Anna Ashby and Mrs. Jud W. King of this city.

Matilda Smith Dead.

Mrs. Matilda Smith, aged mother of Mrs. M. L. Osterhout and Mrs. E. Chapple, passed away Wednesday morning at her home on South Pearl street. The funeral will be held at the Baptist church Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Obituary will be published next week.

Munn-Waghorn.

Although we are unable to confirm the rumor that our old friend, James Munn and Miss Mice Waghorn were married Sunday at Grand Rapids, we note that there has been a marriage license issued to these two local people in Kent county and we suppose that they have been married ever this. We wish them success and happiness in their new Grandville home.

Change of Time.

The Congregational Sunday school change of time beginning with Sunday, Sept. 14, the school will call to order at 11:45 o'clock. Will the parents please make a special effort so that all the members of the class will be there as we want a 100 per cent attendance next Sunday.

Little Babe Died.

Dorothy Agnes, the one and only child of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Engemann, died at its parents' home, Thursday night. The funeral was held Saturday morning and the little body was buried in St. Joseph's Catholic cemetery.

Mrs. Rose McConnell returned on Monday noon from a visit with her parents at Lakeview.

LOCAL APPLE GROWER TAKES FIRST PRIZES

Brinton F. Hall of this city, who owns the large apple ranch east of here, went up to the Greenville fair and very nearly scooped all the first prizes which the association had to offer with the excellent fruit from his orchards which he had on exhibition there. Mr. Hall had 16 exhibits of apples and out of this number, he carried away 11 first prizes and two second prizes, which is going some considering the competition which he had to go up against at the fair in the way of other excellent showings put there by other apple growers.

One good feature of the winning of the 13 prizes is that Mr. Hall is going to give the prizes which he won at the fair, to the Red Cross, one-half to the Greenville chapter and the other one-half to the local chapter.

Mr. Hall has a splendid large orchard on his farm and he takes the very best of care that the fruit which this orchard produces is of the best quality which it is possible to produce. The farm and orchard is a model of neatness and the methods and machinery on the farm are right up to the minute. Don W. Dean is the foreman in charge of the farm and it is largely due to his careful supervision that the farm is kept up to its high standard.

NEW FURNITURE FIRM ORGANIZED TO OPEN OCTOBER 1

J. C. BALLARD OF SPARTA WILL HEAD NEW COMPANY—LOCAL MEN ARE INTERESTED.

A new concern organized for the purpose of carrying on a general furniture, undertaking and crockery business in this city has been formed by the following gentlemen: J. C. Ballard, of Sparta and E. C. Lloyd, A. L. Spencer and Arthur Fitzjohn of this city. The new firm will be known under the name of the Ballard-Lloyd Co. The firm will occupy the store building, both upper and main floors, recently occupied by Chas. S. Foster.

A complete stock of furniture, rugs, linoleums, stoves, house furnishings, dishes, crockery and a very extensive line of undertaking supplies will be carried. The firm has purchased a fine and modern auto hearse and ambulance and will use these in their business here. They will have their undertaking parlors directly across the street from the main store, in the rooms recently fitted up by Mr. Arthur Fitzjohn, who is already in a position to attend any funeral calls. Mr. Ballard has had years of experience in the furniture and undertaking business and together with Mr. Fitzjohn they will be able to take care of any business in good shape.

Mr. E. C. Lloyd will be actively interested in the business, which makes the success of the firm assured, for with his long years as a successful and courteous business man in this city, his name has almost become a household name in the homes of this city and vicinity. "Lloyd's" will stand for just as much in the new business as it has always stood for in the large dry goods business which Mr. Lloyd has built up.

We understand that the new firm will be ready to open up for their share of the local business on October 1. Workmen are at present busily engaged in tearing out the old fixtures and rearranging the new for the stocking up and opening of the new store.

We welcome them to this city and wish them success.

Is Learning to Fly.

Cadet Harry Holmes of U. S. aviation school at Urbana, Ill., arrived in the city Saturday for an over Sunday visit at the home of his mother, Mrs. Martha Holmes. Harry is an enthusiast in this matter of airplanes and thinks that with a sufficiently large aerial fleet, that the allies could soon put an end to the war. Harry passed his first period of instruction with flying colors and says that he can think of nothing else only flying and is hopefully anticipating the time when he will be zipping through the air hunting German planes. When we asked Harry whether he planned on resuming his studies for the medical profession after the war is over, he laughed and said that the time was still too far away to bother with, that at the present time he was bending every possible nerve and effort to fit himself so that he could manage an aeroplane for the nation and do his part in winning the war through the allies mastering the air.

Picked Old Barney's Pocket.

Barney Rice is far from being as near a millionaire now as he was last week at this time, all because Barney went up to the Greenville fair and took in the sights. Barney had just as much money, lacking the amount which he had spent for railroad fare and other incidentals as he had when he started out in the morning, but when he struck the depot platform, all his coin had disappeared. The usual pickpocket method of crowding was staged just as Barney was getting off the train and of course no one thought to take care of their wallets and when Barney felt—why, the place where his pocketbook had been, was as empty as a socialist's promise and then Barney saw through it all. The pocketbook contained about thirty some dollars and Barney hopes that the fellows who got it have a good time on the coin.

We are also informed that W. D. Pond was relieved of his pocketbook while taking in the sights at the Greenville fair. Pickpockets are all ways on the program at the fair, although they are not mentioned in the catalogues which the fair management usually put out.

PRESIDENT KEDZIE OF M. A. C. GIVES ADVICE TO DRAFTEES

TELLS OF ADVANTAGES AND MILITARY TRAINING AT THE PREPARATORY SCHOOL.

The editor is in receipt of the following splendid letter from President Frank S. Kedzie of the M. A. C., which in view of the fact that the registration of Thursday, September 12, will concern so many men whom this letter will be instructive to, we gladly publish. It is as follows:

Sept. 7, 1918.

Dear Sir: In bringing to the attention of the prospective college students the advantages offered by the M. A. C., it is well to bear in mind that this is the oldest military institution in the state for its course in military science was established by action of the war department in 1885. Its graduates have made good in every field of effort and none recommended by the military department have failed to secure recognition by the war department in the present conflict.

Under the new draft laws, all men from 18 to 45, physically fit, not exempted for some cogent industrial reasons, will be sent to one of two places, the cantonment or the college. No preferred or sacred class of students will be created by this college work for everyone has an equal opportunity. For those of less than high school education, there is the vocational school where motor mechanics, radio, carpentry, and horse-shoeing are taught. For those with high school or better, the student will enter upon the academic courses. The vocational school is filled by voluntary induction through your local draft board while the latter school is entered in the same manner as you ordinarily enter college. What are, then the necessary steps to be taken to enter?

When you register on Sept. 12, you inform the local draft board that you are a high school graduate and intend entering M. A. C. on Oct. 1. You report at East Lansing on that day before noon if possible and see the registrar, and present the evidence of your high school graduation. On October 1 you will be formally inducted into the military service of the United States and by that act you become a soldier in active service entitled to all the rights and privileges and accepting all the responsibilities pertaining thereto. The privileges include the pay of \$30 per month, board, lodging, bedding, clothing and tuition as well as medical care. Your only necessary and unavoidable expenses are for text books and laundry. What will your responsibilities be? You will be under the laws of military discipline, under military authority, the same as a soldier at Camp Custer or in France.

What will you study? There will be 11 hours per week of strictly military instruction, 14 hours of prescribed class work and 28 of supervised required study of subjects closely allied to military matters. For those entering the engineering course or veterinary work, there will be little or no change in the regular program. The school other courses will take such work as the government decides is of military value. The prescribed course will be closely followed.

Whither does this lead you? At the end of three months there will be a day of settlement. If you have done poor work, you will be returned to duty at a cantonment but if you have "done one top hole" you will be recommended (Continued on page four)

SEVERAL BOYS ENROLL TO GET ARMY TRAINING

SAME COURSE FITS THEM WITH GOOD EDUCATION AND ARMY TRAINING IS THE BEST.

East Lansing, Mich., Sept. 9.—The second "class" of 550 national army men, since July 15 have been receiving special instruction in the engineering shops and laboratories of M. A. C., finished up their course this week and are preparing to move on Saturday or Sunday. During their eight weeks of intensive schooling under the tutelage of the engineering department, the men have become adepts in the operation and repair of army trucks and tractors.

Most of the class of 550 who were "graduated" quite informally with the good wishes of the college and the congratulations of President Kedzie, are expected to be moved to the seaboard, while a number will be transferred to Camp Custer and to other cantonments. All of the boys are from Michigan. The members of the first camp hailed from Wisconsin.

A third detachment of at least a half thousand men is expected to come in immediately the present unit moves out.

Enjoyed Short Furlough.

Wells D. Hall, of Camp Custer, was one of the boys in khaki who spent Sunday at home on furlough. With him came John Brandenburg, of Kansas City, Mo., and "Tex" Barnes of San Antonio, Texas, both soldiers stationed at Camp Custer. They came along because they had a furlough and could not go as far as their homes and while they were here they shared the hospitality of the Hall home and had a good time. They returned to camp Sunday evening.

Mrs. A. D. Jenks left for Big Rapids Saturday morning where she will visit her sister for a time.

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER

Tomorrow, Thursday, August 12 is registration day and every man in this city who has reached his 18th birthday and who is not yet 46 years old, will have to go to his polling place and register for military service. If you refuse to do this you are a slacker and Belding has as yet not had one of them arrested in its limits. So register early and avoid the rush and slacker raids which may be staged later on.

A BAD WRECK ON P. M. R. R. TAKES ENGINEER'S LIFE

FIREMAN JUMPED AND IS IN A SERIOUS CONDITION AT LOCAL HOSPITAL.

A disastrous wreck happened just south of the Pere Marquette depot in Smyrna Monday afternoon when the coal tender of Pere Marquette passenger train No. 34, commonly called "the flyer," running ten minutes later than scheduled time, left the track and striking the switch which led in onto a side track to the east side of the station, threw the combination baggage and smoker, and the engine coach which was following it in on the side track. The speed at which the train was running made it difficult to stop and the tender, acting as a link between the coaches and engine, pulled the latter over on its side and partially buried it in the earth beside the track.

The fireman, Clair Harnden, of Ily center college, was on duty when the situation, jumped and in so doing, fractured his left arm and sustained internal injuries among them a ruptured artery in the right chest, which made his condition look very serious for a time. Engineer James Robertson, one of the oldest men running an engine, true to the responsibility which he had over him in getting his passengers through safely, stuck to his post in an attempt to bring the train to a stop and was still there when the engine tipped over and the heavy load of coal tipping out of the tender, piled on top of him. He was conscious when dug out, however, a few minutes later. He sustained severe internal injuries about the back, head and limbs and had his left foot very nearly completely cut off just above the ankle. Engineer Robertson was taken to a Smyrna home and given first attention there by physicians from this city who were rushed to the scene of the wreck, while Fireman Harnden was rushed to the Belding hospital where he was given attention. The brave old engineer died Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock, while his fireman is still alive and chances are good for his recovery.

The train is due in this city at 2:22 p. m., and according to an eye witness who was plowing in the field near by, the train was running no faster, if as fast, than usual. The engine was advanced by some of the water in the tender undoubtedly got to sloshing around and unbalancing it let the wheels get off the track and that after the heavy engine had passed over the switch, the derailed tender sprang the locked and closed switch so that the coaches which followed went in on the side track. However, the wreck progressed rapidly, clearly to the credit of the dead engineer, that he so manipulated his train that he brought it to a stop with the coaches right side up and without a single injury to any of the passengers.

Grand Rapids papers stated that the train had struck an open switch, but this is not true, the switch was closed as it should be and was opened by the derailed tender. A crowd of people soon collected at the spot and the wrecking crew were also there and by morning the damaged and overturned engine and the coaches had been removed and the track repaired. Section men from all along the line were rushed to the scene as the work progressed rapidly. There was hardly an hour during the night but that the people were arriving to see how the wreckers were working. Engineer Robertson, brave old fellow, was one of the oldest engineers on the Pere Marquette road, having run an engine on this line continuously since 1875. His home was at Grand Rapids and his family was soon beside him at the hospital where he had been taken. He was, however, unconscious at the time that they arrived and passed away shortly afterward. His remains were taken back immediately to Grand Rapids, where his funeral will be held Friday afternoon under Masonic auspices.

Robertson drove the first passenger train from Grand Rapids to Saginaw and at the time of the accident was driving Pere Marquette engine No. 383, the same engine which killed the Merriett family at the railroad crossing just north of Greenville about two years ago, although he was not driving it at that time.

The train was in charge of Conductor Bert Hotchkiss of Grand Rapids and the passengers were taken through to their destination on No. 35—the regular passenger train which comes up from Grand Rapids, due here at 6:44 o'clock.

Armored Car In Town.

The armored car belonging to the State Constabulary and which was exhibited at the Greenville fair passed through town Saturday morning on its way back to Lansing. It stopped here and a lot of local people got a chance to look at it, but the driver kept his mouth shut as tight as clam and no information was elicited from him.

Fred U. O'Brien, of the Coral News was in the city, Saturday.

CANADIAN SOLDIER MAKES A HIT WITH LOCAL AUDIENCES

IS ALSO SPEAKING AT MANY THEATERS AND HALLS IN THE SURROUNDING TOWNS.

Sergeant W. J. Myers of the famous Canadian Black Watch, who came here to speak to the people on Labor day and whose speech was one of the best ever delivered from a public platform in this city, so much so that he made a decided "hit" with the crowd, has been gaining in popularity with local people each day that he has been in the city since and is daily making many new friends.

Following his talk on Labor day, when a multitude of people heard him, he visited Ionia, where he spoke on the war to a crowded house and a very appreciative audience. The sergeant next visited Greenville where he spoke to the people at the fair. From there he went to Howard City, Lakeview, at which latter place he is billed to speak tonight and he also visited a number of other places. He left here this morning to fill his Lakeview date.

On Sunday night the veteran of the trenches spoke to a crowded house at the Methodist church and again he more than pleased his hearers with his plain, everyday line of talk of life in the trenches as the Canadian Black Watch found and experienced in the early days of the war. There is nothing of a boastful or bragging nature about the sergeant's talk, but there is that plain and pleasing something which tells of hardships, endurance, of risks taken and overcome in the performance of a great and noble duty well done.

On Monday evening Sergeant Myers spoke at Earl Richardson's Y. M. C. A. group of boys and the young gentlemen were more than pleased with his talk.

It may be interesting for our readers to know how the sergeant came to Belding. In 1913, he together with his brother, since killed in France, and his cousin, Harry Underhill, stopped over night at Hotel Belding. After being wounded Underhill and Myers were sent to a hospital at London, Ontario, and it was while lying there that the boys decided to write to Belding and accordingly addressed a letter to the editor of the Belding "Newspaper". The then Belding News got it and the editor published it, together with a request that some of our young ladies and others write these lonely soldier boys.

Myers says that the requests were astounding. Letters poured in from Belding people, they came from many distant cities where the News was sent and were such splendid, cheery letters, too. The boys also received cigars, cigarettes, tobacco, candy and the like and then they decided to come here when they were able. Some time ago the editor received a letter from Sergeant Myers stating that he would soon visit Belding and he was invited to come to be here on Labor day and talk and he accepted.

Sergeant Myers thinks Belding is the one best place yet and says when he is discharged that he will try and enlist under Old Glory and after the war he will return here and settle down. In case he cannot enlist he intends to settle here sooner. He is "stuck" on Belding and openly admits it and local people will welcome him here as a resident.

Grangers Attention.

We will meet at the G. A. R. hall Saturday evening, Sept. 14. Let all members try and be present.

ARMY MEN ARE GRADUATED FROM M. A. C. SCHOOL

MORE THAN HALF THOUSAND SOLDIERS GRADUATE FROM ARMY TRUCK SCHOOL.

East Lansing, Mich., Sept. 9.—The potato crop, according to reports received by the M. A. C. has been severely damaged this season in many parts of the state by a disease which plant pathologists at M. A. C. have diagnosed as "tubercular rot". "This disease starts," declares Dr. G. H. Coons of experiment station, "by a few plants here and there in the field showing leaflets with dead tips. This dying of the tips quickly progresses around the leaves so that in the height of the attack the leaflets show a dead border which rolls and is very brittle. If the plants are tossed about by the wind the dead portions may break off, leaving the leaflets very ragged in appearance. If rains or heavy dews have come since the leaves showed the dead edges, the dead parts blacked through the action of the various molds that grow on them."

"Since the trouble is one associated with lack of water, and since plants which while making a succulent growth and are suddenly subjected to hot conditions show most tip-burn, it is obvious that cultural practices are the best general control measure that the farmer has at his command. However, since it is too late to do anything this year, it is suggested that farmers who desire detailed information write to the Department of Botany of M. A. C., and ask for the 'Quarterly Bulletin'. This contains an article touching upon this subject."

To Hold Baked Goods Sale.

The ladies of St. Joseph's Catholic church will hold a baked goods sale at the Miller & Harris store on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 14, from 2 until 5 o'clock.—Adv.

OUR BANK SAVINGS SAFE UNLESS GERMANY WINS

There seems to have been a very insidious propaganda carried on, obviously by secret agents of Germany, to the effect that savings bank deposits are to be confiscated. It is difficult to believe that any person in America would credit such a report for an instant. Secretary McAdoo says that the absurdity of these statements is manifest but in order to allay the fears of a few who might be alarmed by such reports he repeats officially that these rumors are wholly baseless.

There is but one thing that will in the least put in danger of confiscation the savings of the American people, whether deposited in savings banks or other banks or invested in Liberty bonds or any other investments, and that one thing is a German victory. It is not the American government that our people should fear, but the German government, and with the American soldiers fighting as they are in France and the American people supporting their government as they are in America, the American people, their liberty, their rights and their savings are safe.

The United States instead of confiscating or endangering the savings and other property of its people is defending them and theirs with all the irresistible might of this invincible republic.

THE BRIDGE GANG IS PREPARING FOR A NEW BRIDGE

"SLOW ORDERS" HAVE BEEN IN FORCE ON LOCAL BRIDGE ON ACCOUNT OF CONDITION.

A bridge gang of the Pere Marquette railroad is here this week and they are unloading heavy creosoted timbers, etc., for the installation of a new railroad bridge just north and east of the depot where the road crosses Flat river. The old bridge is in a rather dilapidated condition and it is going to be a good thing to get the new structure in its place. The crew which is here at present is in charge of a heavy power crane outfit, which moves under its own power and lifts the huge black timbers out of the cars which brought them here as if they were matches.

The old bridge has been condemned for some time past and conductors and engineers in charge of trains running over the two divisions on which this station is situated, have been running under a "slow order" when crossing over the bridge. The piles which support the bridge and the timbers which are used in its construction have become shattered and more or less decayed and the new bridge will make it safe to travel over again with no more than the ordinary degree of caution which engineers use when approaching a bridge.

When all the material is on the ground and ready, a pile driver will arrive and another gang of men will come and the work of putting in the new bridge will be of only short duration.

Hold Enthusiastic Convention.

Henry J. Leonard, W. F. Bricker, Chas. C. Lambertson, Frank P. Hamman, P. J. Costello, Mark Brown and George H. Engemann of this city attended the Democratic convention of the Democratic party held in Ionia Monday and report having taken part in one of the best conventions ever held by that party in this county. Thad Preston was chairman of the meeting and delivered a splendid talk. The convention unqualifiedly approved of the administration's conduct in the war, the regulation of the industrial and social problems as they confront the government today and endorsed woman's suffrage. The delegates elected to attend the state convention at Detroit on Wednesday, Sept. 25, are as follows:

Alfred R. Locke, Ionia, chairman. S. T. Minard, Ionia. Gregg Williams, Ionia. Henry J. Leonard, Belding. Geo. Engemann, Belding. Edward Insley, Otisco. L. L. Allen, Donald. John W. Cowman, Hubbardston. Victor Upton, Lyons. L. P. Spaulding, Ionia township. I. C. Stebbins, Easton. G. W. Hawley, Keene. Chester Adgat, Boston. S. A. Horning, Portland. James B. Curry, Danby. Orville C. Sabers, Danby. S. Frank Aldrich, Lake Odessa. Fred Eddy, Berlin. A. C. Renkes, Campbell.

Delegate Gave Good Report.

Editor Banner-News: It was my privilege Sunday to attend the Baptist church, listening to the address on character building by the pastor, Rev. Biss and at Sunday school hear the report of their delegate, Don Cook, at the state Sunday school convention held recently at Cadillac. He spoke nearly an hour and gave extracts from talks of the various speakers, told of the largest Sunday school in the world at Canton, Ohio, 5,000 members with a men's bible class of 1,000 members. This report was not only interesting but instructive and all were sorry when time was up. He will finish his report next Sunday.

M. E. H. C.

Local Man Wounded.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Rice are in receipt of a letter from their son, Berlie A. Rich, to the effect that he was slightly wounded and in a hospital. Following this they received a telegram from Washington stating that the wounds were of a serious nature.

Mr. and Mrs. Ned Youngs returned to Alma Monday after a short visit at the home of her mother, Mrs. A. J. Moon.

BELDING'S SOLDIERS WERE BUSY IN ALLIED BIG DRIVE

LETTERS TELL HOW OUR BOYS IN KHAKI HELPED TO PUSH THE GERMANS BACK.

More letters from our Yankee boys "over there" where the sound of the big guns is common to them, the boys who a year ago would have been horrified to have heard that some one here had killed another person. Letters from "over there" where our brave boys, Clarence Bailey, Francis Magrin, "Karl" Oberlin, Lyle Madden— but what's the use of trying to tell their names, they are all doing good work, driving back the armies of those who would enslave the world.

The first letter is from Lyle Madden to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Madden and is as follows: Somewhere in France, Aug. 19, 1918 Dear Mother and Father: As I am not very busy today I thought I would drop you a few lines to let you know that I am well and all o. k. and hope this letter finds you both the same.

We are still out on our rest period and don't know just when we will go back after the Huns again but it won't be long and then I won't have much time to write. But don't worry if you don't hear from me for two or three weeks at a time because you know when we are on the lines there isn't any place to mail letters, because we go so fast that they can't keep up.

On the last drive we were in we pushed back the Huns between 12 and 15 miles in several days. So you can make up your mind that the old 32nd division makes them sit up and take notice. The chaplain who helped do the burying said that there was between 4 and 6 Germans killed to one American. And our boys took a lot of chances, because they went so fast that the artillery could not keep up. And you see they did not have any artillery protection the last three or four days, but they kept on going just the same.

For three days and nights all the boys had to eat was raw bacon and hard tack and were fighting hard night and day and went through terrible artillery fire from the Huns and also machine gun fire. Also saw their best friends fall right beside them, and even at that besides being so hungry, tired and dirty they went over to the top singing. Now just show me better soldiers than that if you can, but it can't be done.

I do not know how far the boys would have gone if they had not run out of ammunition. When they run out they dig themselves in and hold the line until the ammunition train and kitchens caught up. They they all filled up and with a new supply of ammunition they took about a mile or a little more of No-Man's land before they were relieved.

I have not seen a town or house since the 27th of July that was not hit by a shell or all torn to pieces, and even at that besides being so hungry, tired and dirty they went over to the top singing. Well, there isn't much more that I can write about and besides the war is nothing to write or talk about, because it sure is hell if there is any such place.

I was up to dinner with Kenneth the other day. He is feeling fine. I also saw Ben Longan and Orville Black but did not see Spencer Smith as he has been shell shocked and in the hospital. I suppose you will wonder what shell shock is. Well it is caused by the terrible noise and concussion of shell landing close to you. It is nothing to have one land and knock you down.

Well, I am back to regimental headquarters and I was glad to get back. I am back with Capt. Hogarth again and am driving motorcycle for the officers. I have got an Indian machine and side car.

Ben is also in regimental headquarters but is in the Signal platoon, but I see him every day and also see Cy and Paul every day.

I got a nice long letter from Mrs. Baille Monday and also one from Hattie and Uncle Geo. and Aunt Let. Say, you tell Mr. and Mrs. Megginley that they owe me a letter. I wrote one to them about six or seven weeks ago. Just ask them if they got it.

Well, I will close for this time and will write again before we go back to the front. I am now about two or three miles from the front lines.

As ever with love from your son, Private, Lyle C. Madden, 126th Regimental Headquarters, 32d Division, A. E. F., France, via N. Y.

The second letter is from Corporal Clarence G. Bailey and came at the first after lapse of a long period of anxious waiting by his family here. Clarence's letter follows: On Active Service with the American Expeditionary Force, July 27, '18. Dear Ones at Home:

Don't think I have forgotten you for my mind turns homeward pretty often, I'm telling you. Well first I will tell you that this is the first letter that I have written in a long time but it is not my fault for once more I have been away on a trip and in a place where we can't write letters.

Well once more we have shown them what the "Yanks" could do and we sure did a good job of it. Old (Continued on page 8.)

HELP WANTED

Both Men and Women.

Thomas Canning Company.

Franklin and Buchanan Sts. Grand Rapids, Michigan